

Residential Study Group (RSG)
January 3, 2017
Arlington Town Hall, First Floor Conference Room
6:00-7:30PM

Attendees: Patrick Quinn, Zoning Board of Appeals; Steve McKenna, Town Manager appointee; Pasi Miettinen, Town Manager appointee; Wynelle Evans, Town Manager appointee; Janice Weber, Town Meeting Member; Andrew Bunnell, Redevelopment Board; Jenny Raitt, Planning and Community Development; Laura Wiener, Planning and Community Development; Adam Chapdelaine, Town Manager; Bill Copithorne, industry representative; Rick Vallerelli, Inspectional Services; Town Meeting Member; Adam Auster, Town Meeting Member.

Guests: John Martin, Town Meeting Member and Industrial Hygienist

Jenny opened the meeting. The group reviewed the prior meeting's discussion and outcomes. Jenny is preparing meeting summary from January 3rd meeting. The survey to owners and builders is moving forward. The subgroup hopes to have it mailed by the end of January. The only updated research to share was regarding the maps. Nat, with assistance from Inspectional Services, updates some of the addresses in the demolition, new construction map.

The group focused the rest of their time on discussing proposed warrant articles to address driveway grades and a Residential Construction Agreement for Annual Town Meeting. The group recognizes that the driveway article would be a Zoning Warrant Article and the other amendments are to Town Bylaw articles. The group reviewed the Arlington Residential Construction Control Agreement and spent time discussing the need for a public meeting. It was decided almost unanimously that the group did not agree with the requirement for a builder to hold a public meeting. There was a concern that abutters would not be able to provide real feedback on plans and that the builder might not be the best facilitator of such a meeting.

The group then focused attention on Town Meeting Member and noise expert, John Martin, who Liz Pyle invited to join for this portion of the meeting. John discussed ways that the Town can amend the noise abatement bylaw. He shared examples from Boston and Cambridge and discussed his experience in the field. He felt that it was important to raise the dBA and also consider octo-waves for improved measurement. The group agreed that Jenny would follow-up with John Martin and Christine Bongiorno to further discuss amendments to the bylaw.

Jenny also stated that the draft warrant article language would be provided in advance of the next meeting.